MARVEL COMICS
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MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS
WOLVERINE
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$1.25 US
$1.75 CAN
50
UK 65p
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
WOLVERINE
SPIDER-MAN
SILVER SURFER
COMET MAN
CAPTAIN ULTRA
SPECIAL 50TH ANNIVERSARY ISSUE!
ERIK LARSEN AND TERRY AUSTIN

MARVEL® COMICS PRESENTS

Cover—ERIK LARSEN
TERRY KAVANAGH—Editor

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Page

WOLVERINE 1

Breaking Point
Part 3 of 3
LIFE'S END

The kidnapped mutant girl that Wolverine and the Amazing Spider-Man have teamed up to face has flattened the duo with a single mind blast.
Now the captors circle the two like sharks coming in for the kill.

Writers — ERIK LARSEN
Penciler — ERIK LARSEN
Inker — JOE RUBENSTEIN
Letterer — JADE MOEDE
Colorist — GREGORY WRIGHT

Page

COMET MAN 9

A Family Affair
Part 1 of 4

Stephen Beckley, known as the Comet Man, reluctantly left Earth months ago in a Fortisquian starship with Max, his alien companion and mentor. Max has been tutoring Beckley to control and perfect his amazing newly acquired abilities. Soon the Comet Man will be tested as he prepares to return to Earth in search of his son . . .

Writers — BILL MUMY/MIGUEL FERRER
Penciler — KELLY JONES
Inker — GERRY TALAOC
Letterer — AGUSTIN MAS
Colorist — JOHN WILCOX

Page

CAPTAIN ULTRA 17

I Just Flew in From Poughkeepsie
And Boy Are My Arms Tired

By day, he's a plumber! By night, he's a stand-up comedian! In between (and on weekends), he's Captain Ultra—a man with the power to do anything better than you can!

Writer — SCOTT LOBDELL
Penciler — DENNIS JENSEN
Inker — JEFF ALBRECHT
Letterer — TODD KLEIN
Colorist — MIKE ROCKWITZ

Page

SILVER SURFER 25

You Can't Go Home Again

The Silver Surfer faces a miniature blackhole, a beautiful woman, a space pirate, and a moral dilemma out of his past.

Writer — ED SIMMONS
Penciler — JACK SPARLING
Inker — CHRIS IVY
Letterer — JANICE CHIANG
Colorist — ED LAZELLARI

MARVEL® COMICS PRESENTS™ Vol. 1, No. 50, 1990. Published by MARVEL COMICS, James E. Galton, President. Stan Lee, Publisher. Michael Hobson, Group Vice President, Publishing. OFFICE OF PUBLICATION: 387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10016. **Application to mail at second class postage rates is pending at New York, N.Y. and at additional mailing offices.** Published biweekly.

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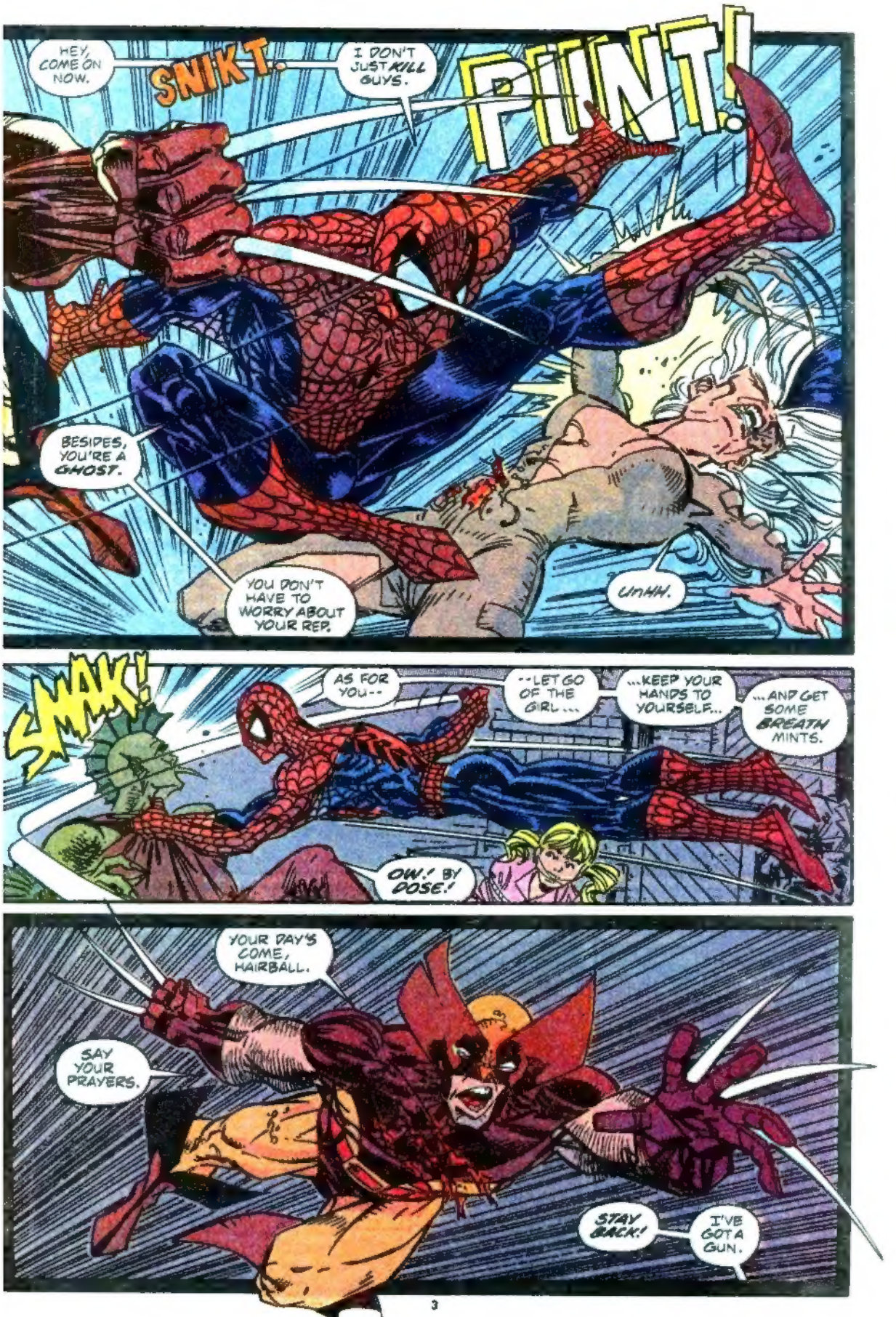
WOLVERINE
AND
THE AMAZING
SPIDER-MAN
LEMME OFF THE WALL-CRAWLER!
I OWE HIM FOR WHAT HE DID TO MY BROTHER.
GET USED TO THIS, LITTLE GIRL.
KILLING'S OUR BUSINESS AND IT'S YOUR FIRST DAY ON THE JOB.
HA! HA! HA! HA!
PUNY IDIOTS!
DID THE TWO OF THEM REALLY THINK THEY HAD A CHANCE AGAINST CRITICAL MASS AND HIS BAND OF BADDIES?
THEY LOOK DEAD ALREADY.
in
LIFE'S END
PART III
BREAKING POINT

SNIKT
NAP TIME'S OVER.
HARD AND FAST, WEBHEAD.
NO PRISONERS.
HAKK!
BRKKBOOM
I'LL DEAL WITH CHUNK STYLE HERE.
YOU MIGHT WANT TO CHECK YOUR POCKETS FOR MISSING LUNCH MONEY WHEN THIS IS ALL OVER.
DIE! DIE! DIE!
THWIP
HEY, NO FAIR!


HEY, COME ON NOW.
SNIKT.
I DON'T JUST KILL GUYS.
PUNT!
BESIDES, YOU'RE A GHOST.
YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT YOUR REP.
UnHH.
SMAK!
AS FOR YOU--
--LET GO OF THE GIRL...
...KEEP YOUR HANDS TO YOURSELF...
...AND GET SOME BREATH MINTS.
OW! BY DOSE!
YOUR DAY'S COME, HAIRBALL.
SAY YOUR PRAYERS.
STAY BACK!
I'VE GOT A GUN.

KRA-KA-THOOM!
ARRGH!
I'M SAVED.
THERE IS A GOD!
YOU WON'T STOP ME.
I'M A BAD DUDE.
tap tap
ULP.
HEY, PAL--
--I DON'T LIKE YOUR TASTE IN CLOTHING.
POW!
THAT - THAT FACE! IT'S... OH NO--IT CAN'T BE!
IT'S MY DENTIST!
AND HE'S WEARING THE SAME TYPE CLOTHING AS THE GUY WHO SHOT MY UNCLE BEN!

PRESENTS
ROWRR
YARR
SM...H!
AND YOU'VE BEEN SLASHING AWAY AT HIS CORPSE FOR THE LAST HALF HOUR.
WHOOPS, MISSED.
BUT, HEY, GOOD EFFORT.
DANG IT, SHE'S STILL CONSCIOUS!
I'M TELLING YOU, HONEY, THIS HORMONES THING IS REALLY GETTING OUT OF HAND.
AND LOOK AT YOURSELF-- UNKEMPT, B.O. -- SHEESH!
A LITTLE WORK AND YOU COULD BE ONE CUTE LOOKIN' BABE.
HECK, I KNOW A GUY WHO'D BE PERFECT FOR YOU.
ONLY TROUBLE IS, HE'S DEAD.
SDOP ID, ALL OB YOU!
ID'S OBER!
NOW WHAT?
WOG AWAY FROB HERE. GO OR I'LL BLOW A HOLE ID HER HEAD THE SIZE OF NEBRAZGA.
I BEAD ID.
I'B DOT KIDDIG.
NO.
NO!

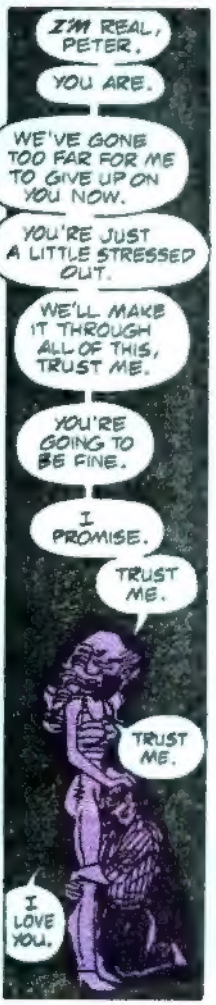
YIKES!
MY SPIDER-SENSE IS GOING NUTS. I'VE GOTTA
BOOM!
BAKA
YOW!
KLATTER!
WHAT WAS THAT?!
...

LATER...
THIS DOESN'T MAKE ANY SENSE.

NO SHOTS OF WOLVERINE, NONE OF ARNIE'S FACE, AND NONE OF MY DENTIST. THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE.
WHAT ACTUALLY HAPPENED? IT'S LIKE SOME CRAZY DREAM. AM I STILL IN A DAZE FROM THE EXPLOSION OR AM I JUST CRACKING UP? IT WOULDN'T BE THE FIRST TIME.
WAS WOLVERINE REALLY THERE? WAS IT A GHOST?
I DON'T KNOW.
NOBODY BUT ME SURVIVED THE EXPLOSION.

NO BODIES WERE FOUND IN THE RUBBLE.
THIS IS GETTING TOO WEIRD. EVERYBODY I KNOW TURNS OUT TO BE, OR IS RELATED TO, ONE OF MY FOES.
HARRY, HIS DAD, MY OLD COSTUME, PROFESSOR WARREN, NED LEEDS, FREDERICK FOSWELL, JEAN DEWOLF'S BROTHER, LIZ'S STEPBROTHER, GLORY GRANT'S BOYFRIEND.
AND NOW FLASH'S GIRLFRIEND, ARNIE, AND MY DENTIST!
IT'S TOO MUCH.
TOO MANY PEOPLE.
TOO MANY COINCIDENCES!

IS IT ME, MARY JANE?
AM I CAUSING THIS?
IS IT THAT MY BEING SPIDER-MAN SOMEHOW CAUSES ALL OF MY CASUAL ACQUAINTANCES TO TURN INTO SUPER-POWERED BAD GUYS?
I DON'T THINK I CAN TAKE MUCH MORE.
I DON'T KNOW WHAT'S REAL ANYMORE.
NOT YOU, MARY JANE, PLEASE, NOT YOU.
I COULDN'T TAKE THAT.
YOU'RE THE ONE CHUNK OF REALITY FOR ME TO HANG ON TO.
PLEASE, MARY JANE.
HELP ME.
I DON'T KNOW WHO TO TRUST.

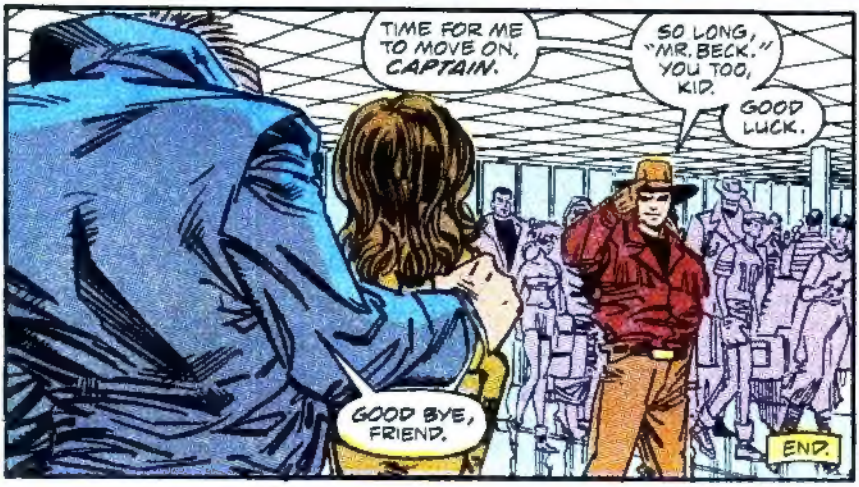

I'M REAL, PETER.
YOU ARE.
WE'VE GONE TOO FAR FOR ME TO GIVE UP ON YOU NOW.
YOU'RE JUST A LITTLE STRESSED OUT.
WE'LL MAKE IT THROUGH ALL OF THIS, TRUST ME.
YOU'RE GOING TO BE FINE.
I PROMISE.
TRUST ME.
TRUST ME.
I LOVE YOU.

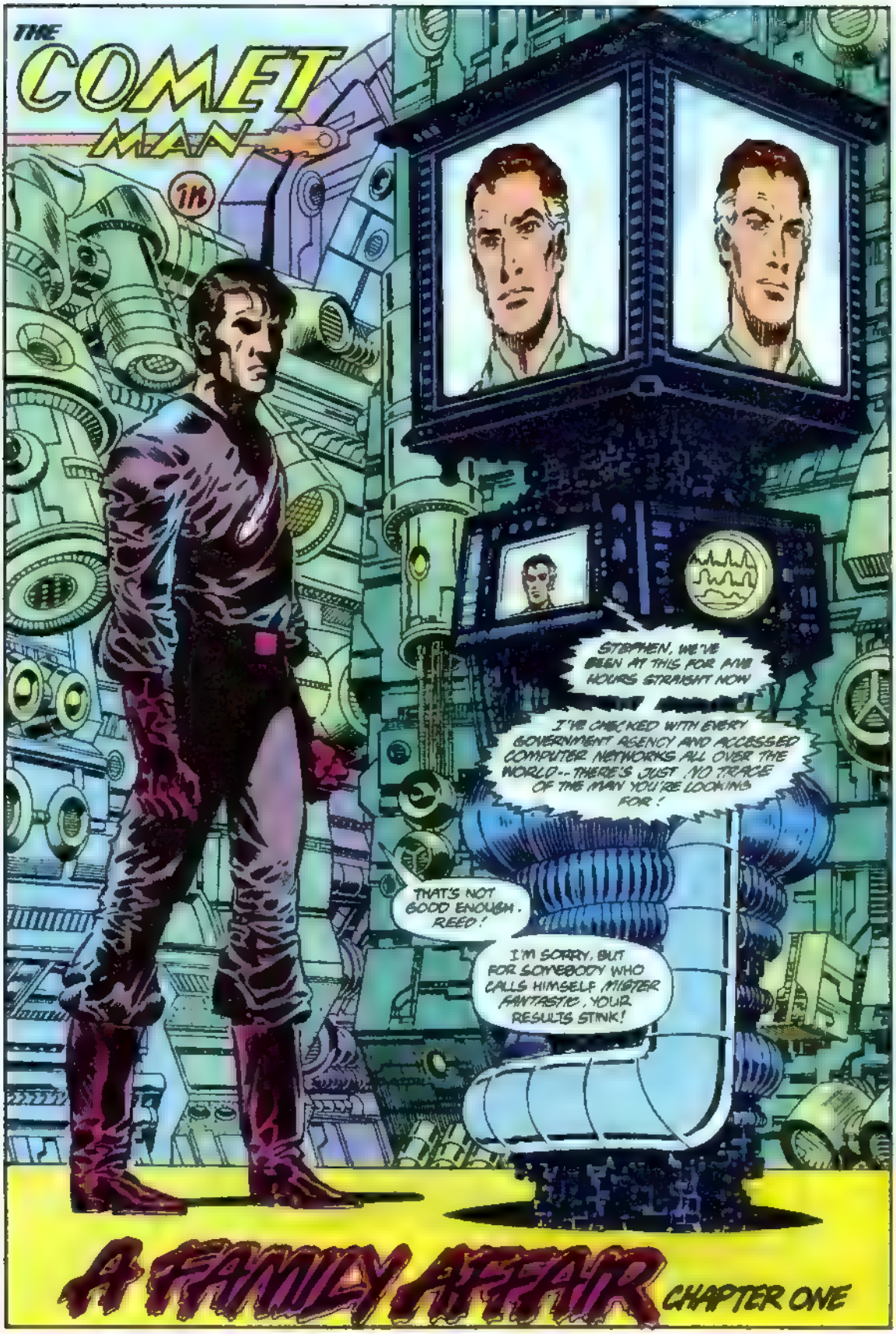
KANSAS...
WHEN I HEARD YOU WERE ABDUCTED, I GAVE YOUR PAL, FRED, A CALL.
AND THEN I CALLED SOME OF MY OWN FRIENDS.
IT WAS A CHALLENGE TO FIND YOU.
BUT I'M NOT A MAN WITHOUT RESOURCES.
IT WAS SHEER LUCK THAT SPIDER-MAN HAPPENED BY.
I MADE SURE WHEN I SPOTTED HIM THAT HE SAW ME.

I GUESS DESPERATION IS THE BEST TEACHER, KID. YOU COULD'VE BLOWN UP THE BUILDING AND TELEPORTED US TO SAFETY AT ANY TIME. PUSH CAME TO SHOVE. YOU LEARNED FAST.
YOU MAY BE THE MOST POWERFUL MUTANT EVER. IT'LL BE UP TO YOUR FATHER TO TRAIN YOU TO USE YOUR POWERS WISELY.
YOU SHOULD BE ABLE TO MAKE A FRESH START HERE. I'VE SET YOU UP WITH NEW NAMES, NEW IDENTITIES.
NOBODY KNOWS YOU'RE HERE.
'CEPT ME.

I KNOW A THING OR TWO ABOUT HIDING OUT--AND PLAYING DEAD.
YOU'LL BE SAFE HERE.
AND I MUST SAY, PAL, WITH THAT DISGUISE, YOUR OWN MOTHER WOULDN'T RECOGNIZE YOU.

HA HA.
HOLY MOLEY, YOU COULD BE RIGHT.
BUT I'M AN ORPHAN, REMEMBER?
THANKS FOR ALL YOU'VE DONE, LOGAN.
WE'VE BEEN TRYING TO KEEP A LOW PROFILE EVER SINCE DADDY LOST HIS SUPER-POWERS.
NOW WE'VE GOT A REAL CHANCE.


TIME FOR ME TO MOVE ON, CAPTAIN.
SO LONG, "MR. BECK." YOU TOO, KID.
GOOD LUCK.
GOOD BYE, FRIEND.
END.


THE COMET MAN IN
STEPHEN, WE'VE BEEN AT THIS FOR FIVE HOURS STRAIGHT NOW
I'VE CHECKED WITH EVERY GOVERNMENT AGENCY AND ACCESSED COMPUTER NETWORKS ALL OVER THE WORLD--THERE'S JUST NO TRACE OF THE MAN YOU'RE LOOKING FOR!
THAT'S NOT GOOD ENOUGH, REED!
I'M SORRY, BUT FOR SOMEBODY WHO CALLS HIMSELF MISTER FANTASTIC, YOUR RESULTS STINK!
A FAMILY AFFAIR
CHAPTER ONE

STEPHEN, I THINK YOU SHOULD TRY TO CALM DOWN AND REMEMBER THAT I'M NOT YOUR ENEMY.
YOU'RE RIGHT. I'M SORRY.
IT'S JUST THAT IN THE MONTHS SINCE I LEFT EARTH, I'VE ONLY THOUGHT ABOUT ONE THING... PUNISHING THE MAN WHO DESTROYED MY LIFE.
I'VE NEVER MET HIM. I DON'T EVEN KNOW WHAT HE LOOKS LIKE.
THEY USED TO CALL HIM THE SUPERIOR...
I UNDERSTAND HE'S MY BROTHER
YES, I KNOW ALL ABOUT THAT, BUT WHAT ABOUT YOU? AFTER WRECKING THE BRIDGE HEADQUARTERS, YOU VANISHED INTO THIN AIR
ALL THIS TIME HAS PASSED WITHOUT A WORD, AND NOW YOU CONTACT ME OUT OF THE BLUE ASKING FOR THE IMPOSSIBLE! WHY NOW?
BECAUSE NOW I'M READY FOR HIM!
YOU REMEMBER WHEN THIS WHOLE THING STARTED, I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT I WAS DOING -- COULDN'T CONTROL MY POWER?!
REED, YOU WOULDN'T BELIEVE WHAT I'VE LEARNED! I'M GOING TO MAKE MY BROTHER PAY FOR WHAT HE'S DONE!
THEN I'LL FIND MY SON, AND TRY TO PUT BACK TOGETHER WHATS LEFT OF MY LIFE.
I SEE.

"WHERE ARE YOU NOW STEPHEN?"
MAX AND I ARE ABOARD A FORTISQUIAN STARCRUISER ORBITING EARTH'S MOON.
WHEN WE FIRST RETURNED TO FORTISQUE, MAX'S HOME COLONY, HE WAS ASSIGNED THE TASK OF TUTORING ME IN THE USE OF MY EXPANDED ABILITIES, AND PREPARING ME FOR FUTURE SERVICE AS A COMET MAN.
MAX'S PEOPLE WERE WORRIED ABOUT CONTAMINATION FROM HUMANS, SO THEY SENT US OUT INTO SPACE TO CONDUCT THE TRAINING WE JUST DRIFTED AROUND FOR A WHILE EXCHANGING INFORMATION
OH, AND I'M SURE YOU HEARD ALL ABOUT OUR RECENT ADVENTURE WITH YOUR PALS IN THE FANTASTIC FOUR.*
*SEE FF 345-347.--T.K.
AFTER THAT I KNEW IT WAS TIME TO COME HOME...
...AND SETTLE SOME OLD SCORES!
REED, I'D HOPED YOU COULD HELP ME, BUT IF YOU CAN'T, THEN I'LL FIGURE SOMETHING ELSE OUT.
ONE WAY OR ANOTHER, I'M GONNA NAIL MY DEAR BROTHER TO THE WALL!
YOU'VE MADE YOUR POINT, DR. BECKLEY. NOW, BEFORE YOU RUN OFF LIKE RAMBO, THERE ARE STILL A FEW SOURCES I HAVEN'T CHECKED.
HMMM... AFTER BRIDGE H.Q WAS DESTROYED ALL SURPLUS FUNDS WERE LAUNDERED THROUGH BANKS IN DOZENS OF COUNTRIES. THAT TRAIL IS ICE COLD.

MORE BAD NEWS -- IT SEEMS THAT NO PRINTS OR EVEN PHOTOS OF YOUR BROTHER ARE ON FILE WITH ANY INTELLIGENCE AGENCY IN THE FREE WORLD
I CAN CHECK FURTHER IF YOU LIKE BUT FROM WHAT I'VE FOUND, HE SIMPLY DOESN'T EXIST.
I KNOW THAT'S NOT WHAT YOU WANTED TO HEAR BUT IT'S THE TRUTH
MY SUGGESTION TO YOU IS TO RETURN TO EARTH, LOCATE YOUR SON, AND LEAVE THE POLICE BUSINESS TO THOSE BETTER SUITED TO THE TASK.
THAT'S PROBABLY VERY SOUND ADVICE, REED, THANKS FOR YOUR HELP I'LL CALL YOU SOMETIME.
"YOU CAN'T ALWAYS GET WHAT YOU WANT, BUT IF YOU TRY SOMETIMES YOU FIND YOU GET WHAT YOU NEED." YEAH -- THE STONES!
STEPHEN, YOUR TRAINING TOWARDS BECOMING A COMET MAN HAS GONE WELL. YOU'VE LEARNED A LOT. I THINK IT'S TIME FOR A SCHOOL BREAK NOW.
YOU DO, MAX"
'DEED I DO, DUDE' LET'S SET THIS PUPPY DOWN.
THIS HIDDEN VALLEY ON EARTH'S MOON WILL BE A SAFE PLACE TO LEAVE THE SHIP WHILE YOU FIND YOUR SON AND DEAL WITH YOUR BROTHER --
-- AND I GO PAR-TAY!

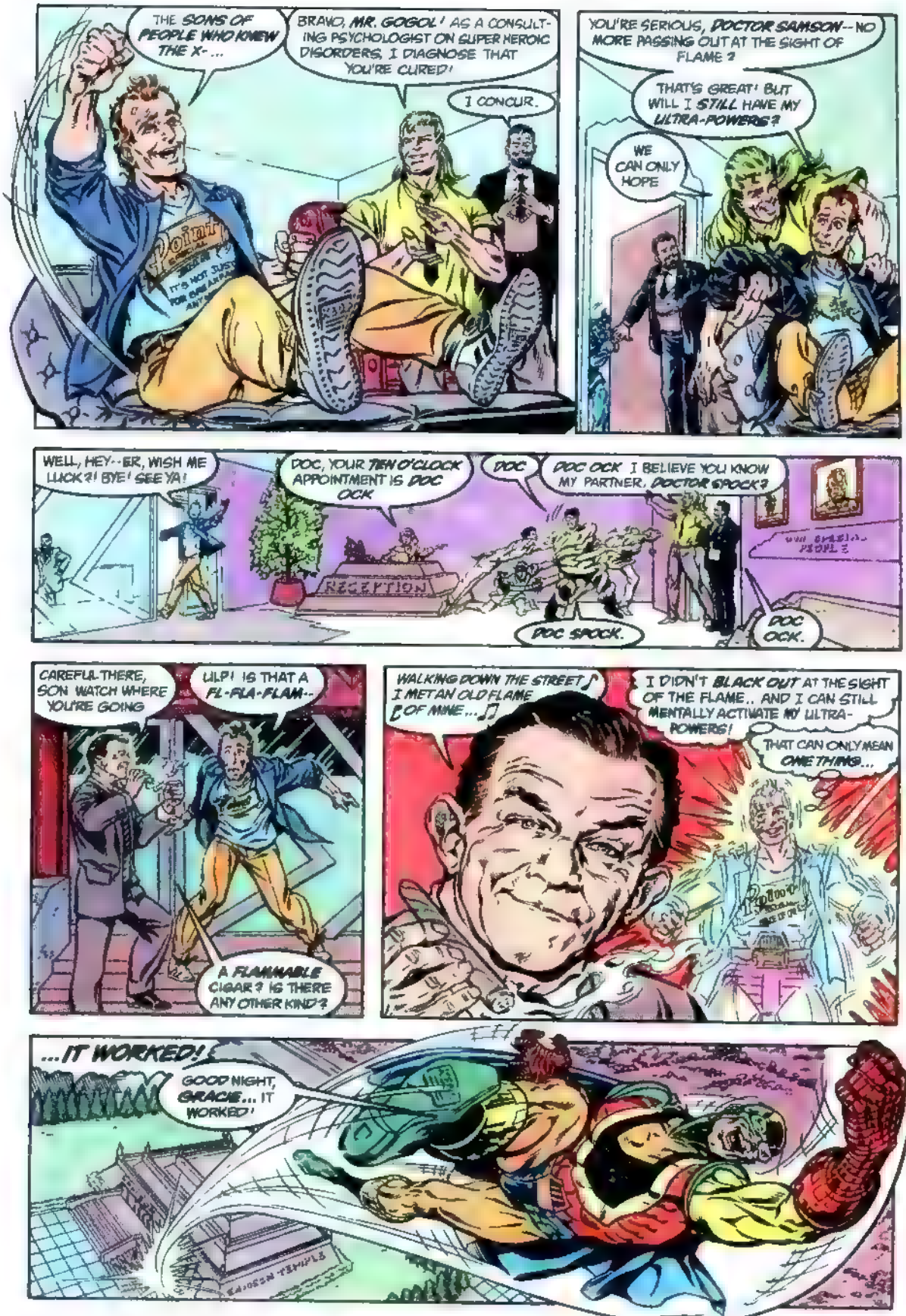
SOON, AFTER SECURING THE STAR CRUISER...
YOU'RE SURE ABOUT THIS, MAX? YOU KNOW WHAT HAPPENED LAST TIME YOU WERE EXPOSED TO EARTH CULTURE!*
AHH, I'LL BE FINE--YOU WORRY TOO MUCH TO TELL THE TRUTH PAL, I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO A LITTLE FREE TIME--NO OFFENSE.
*SEE THE COMET MAN #S 1-6--T.K.
YOU KNOW, BEFORE I RAN INTO YOU, BLEW YOU UP AND RECONSTRUCTED YOU, I WAS ON A SOLO MISSION
I'D BEEN ALONE IN SPACE FOR TWO YEARS I GET ALONG GREAT WITH MYSELF!
BEING A COMET MAN CAN BE A LONELY JOB, STEVIE BUT YOU'LL FIND THAT OUT
AND YOU HAVE TO SETTLE THINGS WITH YOUR FAMILY FIRST. I UNDERSTAND THAT. YOU CAN HANDLE IT NOW--YOU'RE READY!
AND THERE'S A ZILLION THINGS ON EARTH THAT I WANT TO SEE! LIKE HOLLYWOOD--WHERE THE STARS WASH THEIR CARS!
THE TELEPORTATION'S ALL SET. I'LL SEE YOU SOON. GOOD LUCK, BUD!
SAME TO YOU, MAX. BE CAREFUL!
ALL RIGHT! WHERE'S A FORTISQUIAN FIND A PIZZA AROUND HERE?
I'M BACK! AT MY SISTER'S HOUSE--WHERE MY SON SHOULD BE!

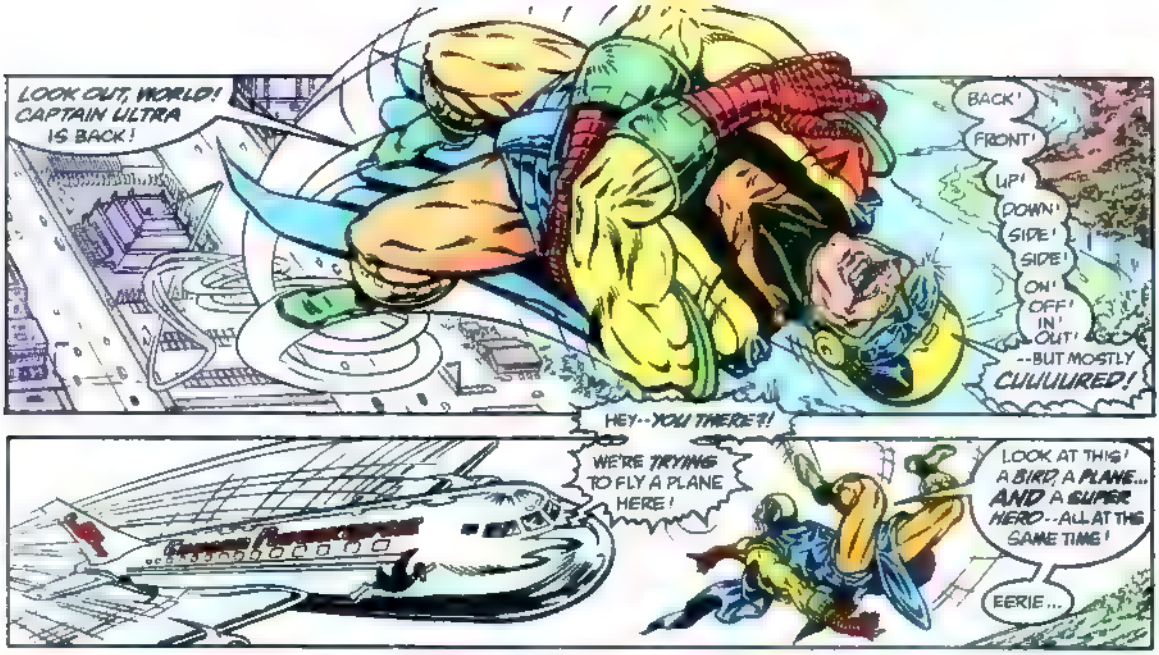
NO POINT IN WAITING, I'LL-- WHAT THE ?! THAT CAR! SPEEDING OUT OF CONTROL TOWARD THAT CHILD!
SHE COULD BE KILLED!
I CAN'T LET THAT HAPPEN!
FWOOOOSH!!
VROOOOM!

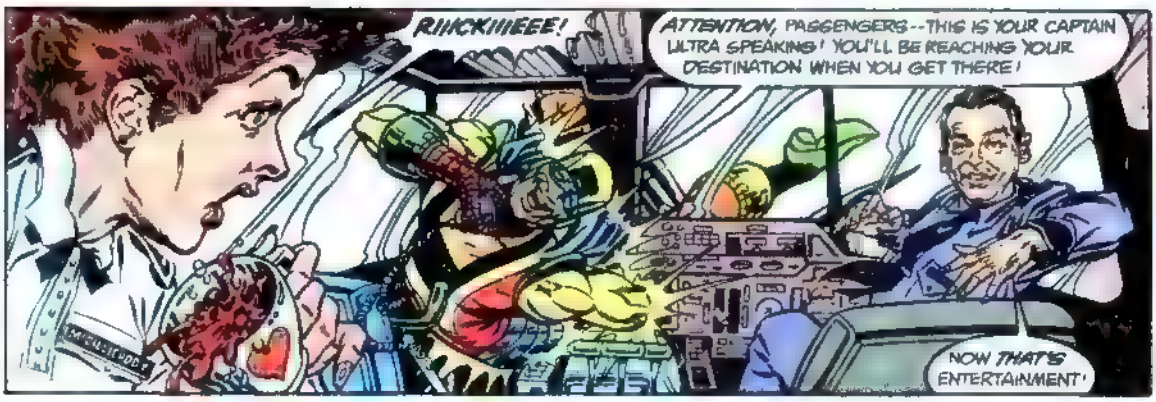
LORD, LET ME REMEMBER THE TRAINING MAX GAVE ME!
WHA?! AIEEE!!
HOLD ON! YOU'RE OKAY!
WUNK
ALL RIGHT, LET HER DOWN EASY NOW, CONTROL THE LEVITATION!
UNHH!

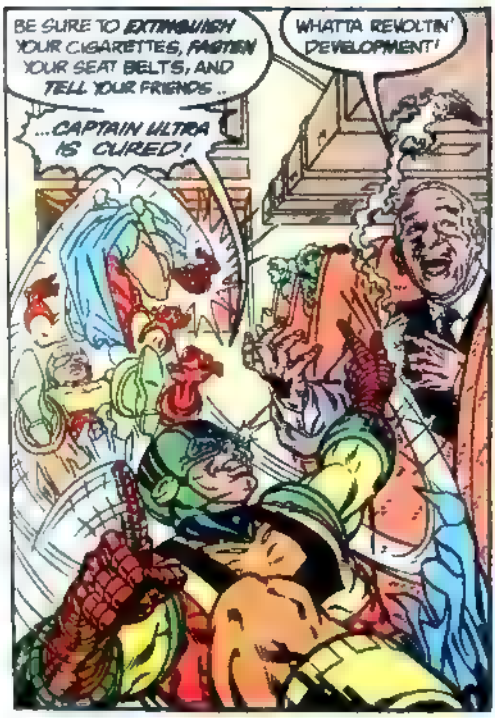
I DID IT!
YOU ALMOST KILLED THAT CHILD!
WHY DON'T YOU LOOK WHERE YOU'RE GOING?! WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH YOU?!
DON'T HURT ME! I'M SORRY! I...
RRRRRR
YOU'RE DRUNK!
NO, I'M... HUH-- YOU?!
OH MY GOD..
CONTINUES NEXT ISSUE...

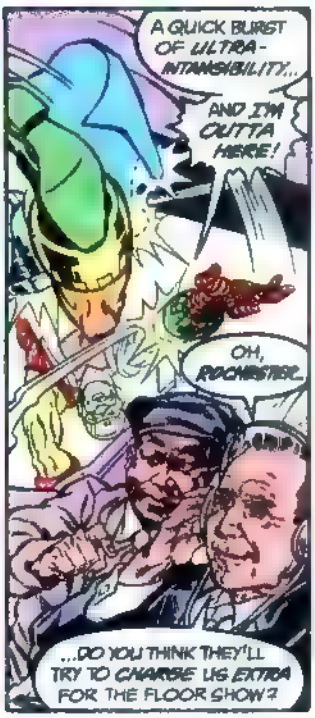
CAPTAIN ULTRA
IN "I JUST FLEW IN FROM POUGHKEEPSIE... (AND BOY ARE MY ARMS TIRED!)"
GIVE UP, ULTRA-- YOU'VE MET YOUR MATCH!
HA, FLINT! I LAUGH IN YOUR FACE...
...AND I USE MY ULTRA-BREATH TO DO IT!
FWOOSH
OH, CAP-- YOU'RE THE BEST!
WHO AM I TO ARGUE?
HE'S OUR LAST HOPE!
YOU'RE RIGHT! THAT CREATURE HAS ALREADY DEFEATED THE FANTASTIC FOUR, THE AVENGERS, THE WEST COAST AVENGERS, THE WHEAT[illegible]GERS, THE D[illegible]RS,
"HE DIDN'T EVEN MENTION THAT FLINT HAD BEATEN EXCALIBUR, X-FACTOR, THE X-MEN, THE EX-X-MEN, THE X-MEN CLASSICS, THE NEW CLASSIC X-MEN, THE WHY-MEN, THE ZEE-MEN..."

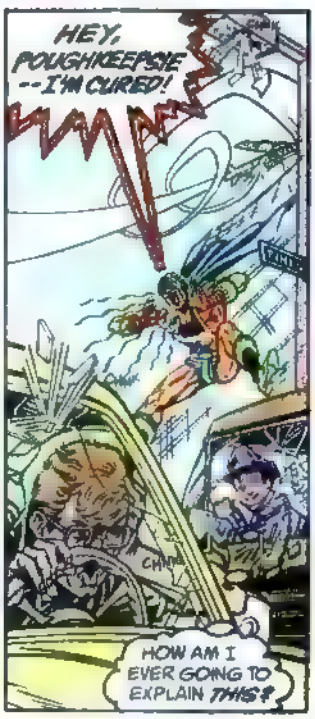

THE SONS OF PEOPLE WHO KNEW THE X-...
BRAVO, MR. GOGOL! AS A CONSULTING PSYCHOLOGIST ON SUPER HEROIC DISORDERS, I DIAGNOSE THAT YOU'RE CURED!
I CONCUR.
YOU'RE SERIOUS, DOCTOR SAMSON-- NO MORE PASSING OUT AT THE SIGHT OF FLAME?
THAT'S GREAT! BUT WILL I STILL HAVE MY ULTRA-POWERS?
WE CAN ONLY HOPE
WELL, HEY--ER, WISH ME LUCK?! BYE! SEE YA!
DOC, YOUR TEN O'CLOCK APPOINTMENT IS DOC OCK
DOC
DOC OCK I BELIEVE YOU KNOW MY PARTNER, DOCTOR SPOCK?
RECEPTION
DOC SPOCK.
DOC OCK.
CAREFUL THERE, SON WATCH WHERE YOU'RE GOING
ULP! IS THAT A FL-FLA-FLAM--
A FLAMMABLE CIGAR? IS THERE ANY OTHER KIND?
WALKING DOWN THE STREET ♪ I MET AN OLD FLAME ♪ OF MINE... ♫
I DIDN'T BLACK OUT AT THE SIGHT OF THE FLAME.. AND I CAN STILL MENTALLY ACTIVATE MY ULTRA-POWERS!
THAT CAN ONLY MEAN ONE THING...
...IT WORKED!
GOOD NIGHT, GRACIE... IT WORKED!


LOOK OUT, WORLD! CAPTAIN ULTRA IS BACK!
BACK!
FRONT!
UP!
DOWN!
SIDE!
SIDE!
ON!
OFF!
IN!
OUT!
--BUT MOSTLY CUUUURED!
HEY--YOU THERE?!
WE'RE TRYING TO FLY A PLANE HERE!
LOOK AT THIS! A BIRD, A PLANE... AND A SUPER HERO--ALL AT THE SAME TIME!
EERIE...


RIIICKIIIEEE!
ATTENTION, PASSENGERS--THIS IS YOUR CAPTAIN ULTRA SPEAKING! YOU'LL BE REACHING YOUR DESTINATION WHEN YOU GET THERE!
NOW THAT'S ENTERTAINMENT!


BE SURE TO EXTINGUISH YOUR CIGARETTES, FASTEN YOUR SEAT BELTS, AND TELL YOUR FRIENDS..
...CAPTAIN ULTRA IS CURED!
WHATTA REVOLTIN' DEVELOPMENT!


A QUICK BURST OF ULTRA-INTANSIBILITY...
AND I'M OUTTA HERE!
OH, ROCHESTER...
...DO YOU THINK THEY'LL TRY TO CHARGE US EXTRA FOR THE FLOOR SHOW?

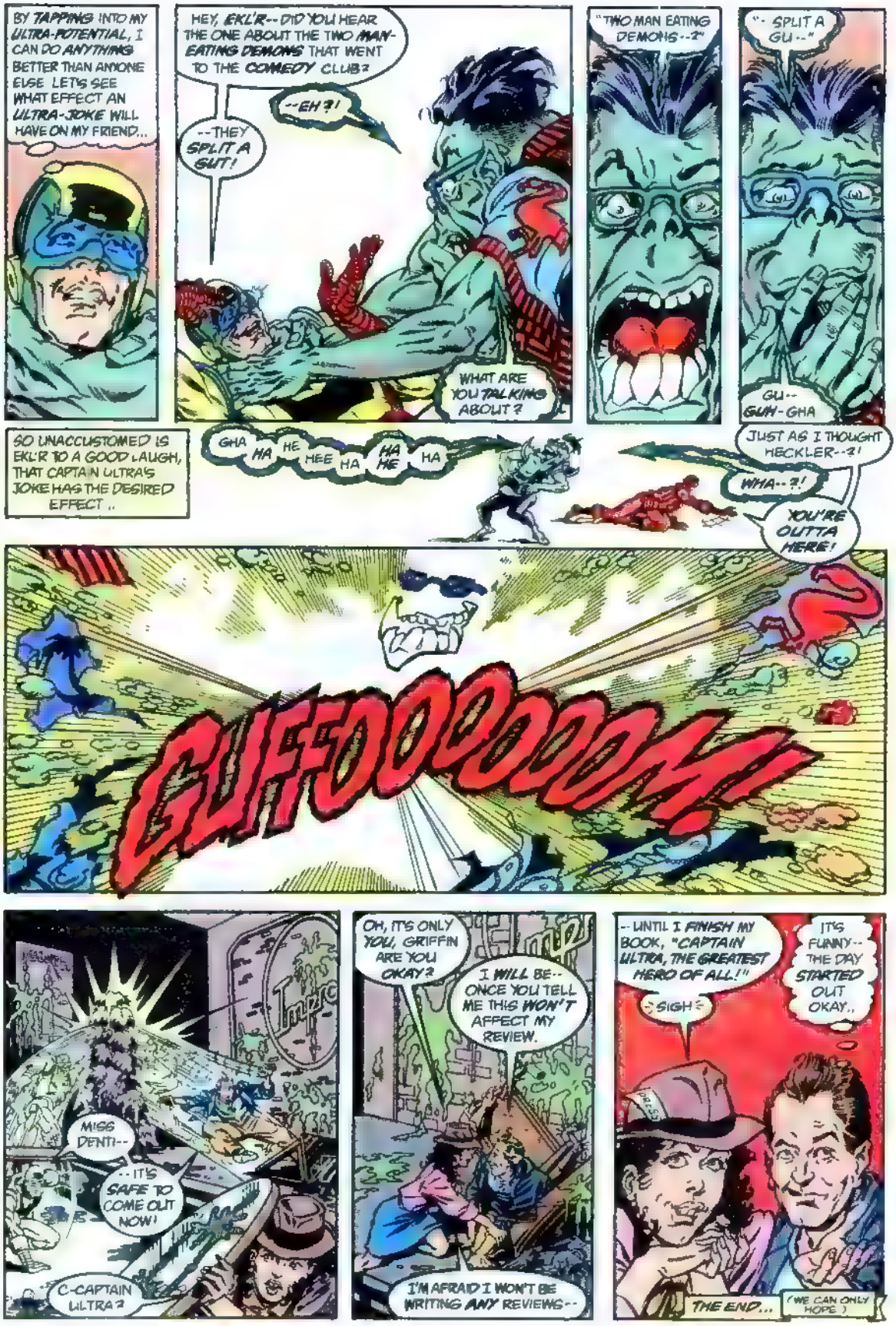

HEY, POUGHKEEPSIE --I'M CURED!
HOW AM I EVER GOING TO EXPLAIN THIS?

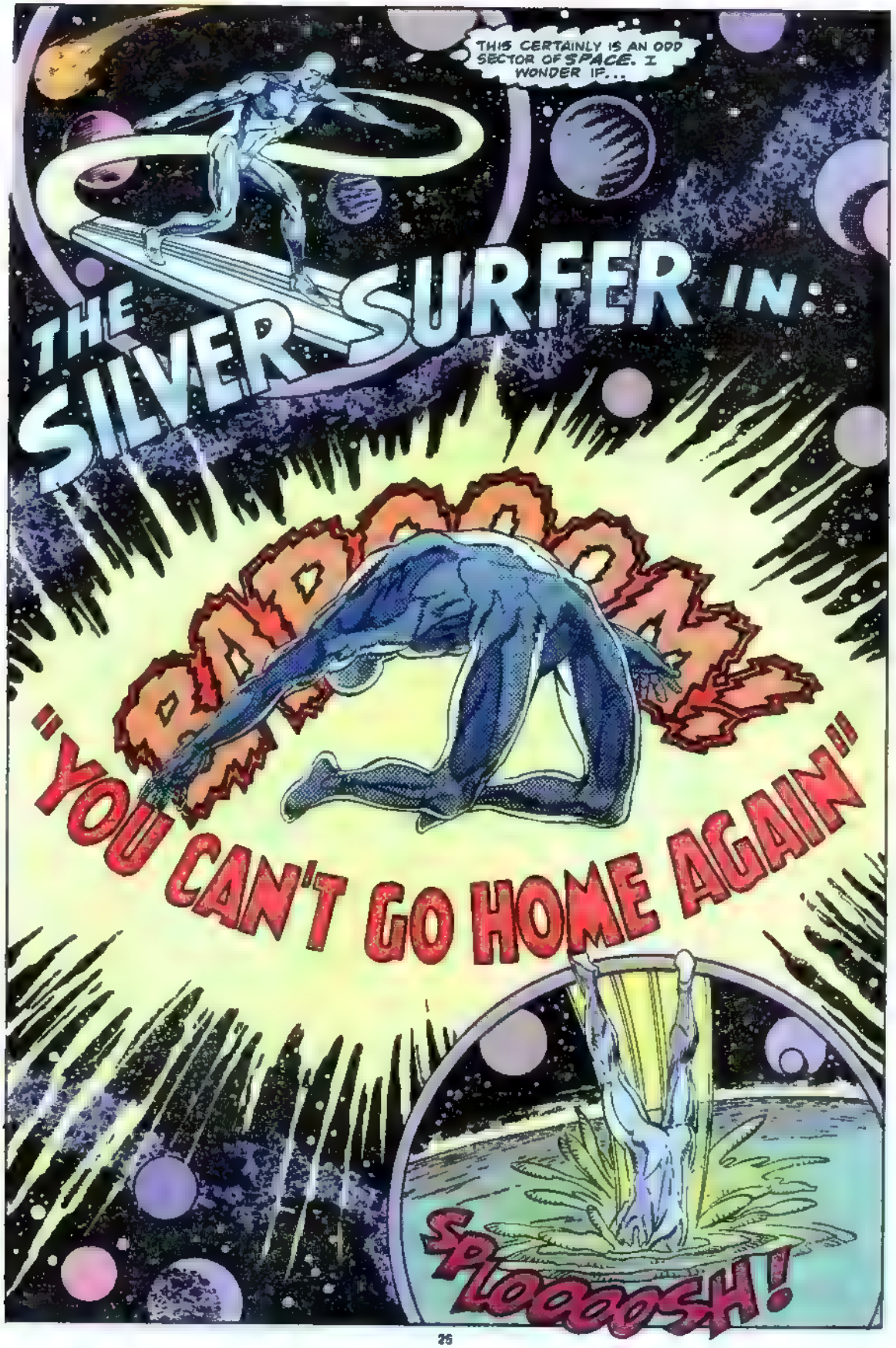
CAPTAIN ULTRA, ISN'T IT? AS MUCH AS THE PEOPLE OF POUGHKEEPSIE MAY WANT AND NEED A SUPER HERO--
--YOU DON'T NEED ONE WHOSE POWERS INCLUDE SHATTERING WINDOWS FOR TEN CITY BLOCKS?
EXACTLY
HELP & SORRY ABOUT THAT, PEOPLE. I HAVEN'T PERFECTED MY ULTRA-VOICE YET heh heh
WHY, I OUGHTTA...
PLEASE, SIR .. NO BLOOD-SHED
LET A TRAINED OFFICER OF THE LAW HANDLE THIS
CAPTAIN VIDEO?
NEW YORK CITY!
PARDON?
WHEN I SEE A SUPER HERO, I AUTOMATICALLY THINK OF NEW YORK CITY. I MEAN, EVERY WOULD BE DESPOT OR INTERGALACTIC INVADER--
--STRIKES IN NEW YORK CITY?
EXACTLY
D-DO YOU ACTUALLY THINK I CAN MAKE IT IN THE BIG APPLE?
OF COURSE YOU CAN! YOU'RE CAPTAIN ULTRA!
SAWSON TEMPLE
SAWSON TEMPLE
YOU GOT ME THERE! THANK YOU, OFFICER. NOW WITH A BURST OF ULTRA-SPEED... I'M OUTTA HERE!
PARDON ME, OFFICER ..
NO NEED TO THANK ME IF WE LET IN ONE SUPER-PERSON, THIS PLACE WILL BE CRAWLING...
KA-BLOOM
...WITH .. SUPER . VILLAINS?!
WHERE'RE YOU GOING?!
STRAIGHT TO THE MOON, IF I HAVE TO!
HA! WITH NO MEDDLESOME SUPER HEROES TO OPPOSE ME, THIS CITY WILL BE MINE! WHAT LUCK!

LATER THAT NIGHT, GRIFFIN GOGOL FINDS HIMSELF FULFILLING ANOTHER LIFE-LONG DREAM -- AUDITIONING AT THE IMPROB COMEDY CLUB IN N.Y.C....
SOMEHOW BEING A PLUMBER DOESN'T SEEM LIKE THE BEST SECRET IDENTITY FOR A SUPER HERO THEN AGAIN --
--I'LL NEVER FORGET THE DAY THAT ELDERLY PSYCHOLOGIST COULDN'T AFFORD TO PAY ME FOR F-XING HIS SINK ..
the Improb
.. AND OFFERED TO USE HYPNOSIS TO CURE ME OF MY SMOKING HABIT INSTEAD OF COURSE I KNOW NOW THAT HE WAS AN ALIEN PSYCHOLOGIST ..
.. WHO ALLOWED ME TO UNLEASH MY FULL POTENTIAL AT WILL, FOR REASONS I'LL PROBABLY NEVER KNOW
ACCORDING TO DOC SAMSON -- MY NATURAL FEAR OF SUCCESS MANIFESTED ITSELF AS CRIPPLING PYROPHOBIA, EFFECTIVELY SABOTAGING A CAREER AS A SUPER PERSON
I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO BE A STAND-UP COMIC NOW'S AS GOOD A TIME AS ANY TO SEE IF I HAVE WHAT IT--
GRIFFIN GOGOL, ISN'T IT? ALL SET TO AUDITION?
SMP
I WAS WHEN MY BACK WAS STILL IN PLACE.
HA HA! YOU'RE UP FIRST, AND DON'T GET NERVOUS--
- JUST BECAUSE CARLA DENTI, THE REVIEWER FROM THE POST, IS HERE!
THE POST? WOW.
PRESS
ONE, SIR?
IS THERE A PROBLEM WITH THAT?
AFTER THIS MORNING, I'M READY TO TAKE ON THE WORLD!
THATTA BOY, GRIFF BREAK A LEG!
ARNIM ZOLA
DEFAMATION LEAGUE!

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, PLEASE WELCOME THE FUNNIEST MAN APPROACHING THE STAGE -- GRIFFIN GOSOL!
THANK YOU, NEW YORK THE ONLY CITY WHERE THE SUPER HEROES OUT-NUMBER THE PEOPLE THEY RESCUE
ON MY WAY HERE, I SAW THOR RESCUING CAPTAIN AMERICA FROM DAREDEVIL. OR WAS IT DD AND CAP BATTLING THOR? MAYBE THEY WERE JUST PRACTICING!
HA HA HE HA-HO
IF I WERE ANY SUPER HERO, IT WOULD BE SPIDEY THEN I'D HAVE AN EXCUSE FOR THE COBWEBS IN MY FRIDGE
HA HE HO
the Limpet
HAA HA
FOR REASONS I DON'T UNDERSTAND, MY GIRLFRIEND SAYS SHE'D RATHER I WAS MR. FANTASTIC.
I'D RATHER YOU WERE BLACK BOLT!
HAA HO HE
WOW, MY FIRST HECKLER -- AND HERE I WAS GOING TO WAIT UNTIL AFTER MARRIAGE
BISON
YOU LAUGH NOW, BUT SOON YOU WILL BE WRITHING IN AGONY!
WHY IS THAT? ARE YOU GOING TO KEEP TALKING?
the Limpet
LET ME PUT IT THIS WAY..
SWAK
...GET OFF THE STAGE, HUMAN! LEST YOU BE THE FIRST TO FALL AT THE FEET OF --
GAZR-- THE DEMON WITHOUT HUMOR!
Muncie
OH, ROCHESTER
...IS IT ME, OR ARE THE HECKLERS GETTING MORE HOSTILE THESE DAYS?

IF I AM EVER GOING TO RULE THIS DIMENSION -- ALL THIS SILLINESS AND FRIVOLITY MUST END!
LET ME GUESS -- YOU'RE WITH THE COMICS CODE?
HUMANS MUST BE WITHOUT HOPE AND GOOD CHEER! WHILE THEY LAUGH THEY WILL ENDURE ANYTHING!
WELL -- ALMOST ANYTHING!
UH-OH, LOOKS LIKE A JOB FOR -- FOR ME?
FIRST I WILL DESTROY THIS COMEDY CLUB! THEN I WILL DESTROY ALL COMEDIANS EVERYWHERE THEN I WILL --
I HATE TO RUIN YOUR CAREFULLY [illegible]...
BUT FIRST YOU MUST DESTROY -- CAPTAIN ULTRA!
UMMM -- CAN I REPHRASE THAT?
FOOL! ONCE THIS PLANET IS WITHOUT HUMOR, NOTHING WILL PREVENT ME FROM ENSLAVING THIS DIMENSION!
DON'T MAKE ME LAUGH, HECKLER! THAT IS... DO MAKE ME LAUGH, OTHERWISE YOU'LL BE ABLE TO... UMMMM..
ARR -- YOU KNOW WHAT I MEAN!
DON'T JEST WITH ME! I COME FROM THE BOWELS OF A DIMENSION WHERE WE FEED OFF THE DISPAIR AND HOPELESSNESS OF OTHERS!
WUMP
GAK! I COME FROM NORMAL PARENTS MYSELF.
WITH YOU GONE -- NO ONE WILL BE ABLE TO STAND IN MY WAY AS I TURN THIS DIMENSION INTO A HUMORLESS WASTELAND!
NO? GAK! EVER HEAR OF A GUY NAMED STEVE MARTIN?


BY TAPPING INTO MY ULTRA-POTENTIAL, I CAN DO ANYTHING BETTER THAN ANYONE ELSE LET'S SEE WHAT EFFECT AN ULTRA-JOKE WILL HAVE ON MY FRIEND...
HEY, EKL'R-- DID YOU HEAR THE ONE ABOUT THE TWO MAN-EATING DEMONS THAT WENT TO THE COMEDY CLUB?
--EH?!
--THEY SPLIT A GUT!
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
"TWO MAN EATING DEMONS--2"
"-- SPLIT A GU--"
GU-- GUH-GHA
SO UNACCUSTOMED IS EKL'R TO A GOOD LAUGH, THAT CAPTAIN ULTRA'S JOKE HAS THE DESIRED EFFECT..
GHA HA HE HEE HA HA HE HA
JUST AS I THOUGHT HECKLER--2!
WHA--?!
YOU'RE OUTTA HERE!
GUFOOOOOM!
MISS DENT!--
--IT'S SAFE TO COME OUT NOW!
C-CAPTAIN ULTRA?
OH, IT'S ONLY YOU, GRIFFIN ARE YOU OKAY?
I WILL BE-- ONCE YOU TELL ME THIS WON'T AFFECT MY REVIEW.
I'M AFRAID I WON'T BE WRITING ANY REVIEWS--
--UNTIL I FINISH MY BOOK, "CAPTAIN ULTRA, THE GREATEST HERO OF ALL!"
-SIGH-
IT'S FUNNY-- THE DAY STARTED OUT OKAY..
THE END...
(WE CAN ONLY HOPE)


THIS CERTAINLY IS AN ODD SECTOR OF SPACE. I WONDER IF...
THE SILVER SURFER IN:
KABOOOM!
"YOU CAN'T GO HOME AGAIN"
SPLOOOSH!

WHAT MANNER OF BEING IS THIS? HE SURVIVED THE VOID WITHOUT A SHIP.
AH, HE IS VERY HANDSOME... BUT I THINK HE NEEDS MY HELP.
MY BOARD--IT'S GONE? WHERE AM I? WHO ARE YOU?
SLOW DOWN. CALM THYSELF. IT IS NOT OFTEN THAT ANYONE SURVIVES A COLLISION WITH A SINGULARITY*.
*A BLACK HOLE.--TERRY
I AM RAVA. WE ARE ON A SMALL PLANETOID ORBITING THE SINGULARITY. MY PEOPLE AND I ARE PRISONERS OF THE MARAUDER-- WE HAVE LIVED HERE FOR YEARS AS HIS SERVANTS.
I AM CALLED NORRIN RADD. WHAT KIND OF PEOPLE ARE YOU?
WE ARE OF THE PLANET SHUNLEE. THE MARAUDER CONTROLS A BLACK HOLE AND USES IT TO PLUNDER SHIPS AS HE DID OURS.
THE SERVANTS CLAIM THEY FOUND THIS NEW ARRIVAL WITHOUT A SHIP. IT MUST HAVE HYPER-SPACIALLY WARPED TO ANOTHER DIMENSION.
WE WILL SEE IF HE PROVES USEFUL. I WILL REDUCE HIM TO DEGENERATE MATTER!
HE HAS INSTRUCTED ME TO BRING YOU TO HIM AS SOON AS YOU AWAKENED.
THE MARAUDER... I HAVE HEARD THE LEGENDS, HE IS A POWERFUL BEING.
AND SHUNLEE... THAT PLANET IS NO LONGER-- A MEAL FOR MY FORMER MASTER, GALACTUS, LONG BEFORE I BECAME HIS HERALD.
I CANNOT SENSE MY BOARD. HAS IT CEASED TO EXISTY

I AM THE MARAUDER. WELCOME TO MY DOMAIN.
WHERE IS MY GLEAMING BOARD?
I ASK THE QUESTIONS HERE. WHERE IS YOUR SHIP?
NO ANSWER?
I AM THE ONE WHO HAS CAUSED YOUR CURRENT DISTRESS.
I MOVE THE SINGULARITY THROUGH THE [illegible] TO DISABLE SHIPS-- THEN REMOVE THE BOOTY, AND THE SURVIVORS, IF THERE ARE ANY.
I LET THE USEFUL SURVIVORS BECOME MY SERVANTS. THE OTHERS GO INTO THE BLACK HOLE.
AN EFFICIENT SOLUTION, DON'T YOU AGREE?
NOW IS NOT THE TIME TO REVEAL MY POWER COSMIC. I MUST REGAIN MY STRENGTH BEFORE CONFRONTING THIS PARTICULAR PERSONIFICATION OF EVIL.

I CAPTURED THESE PEOPLE YEARS AGO AND DESTROYED THEIR SHIP. THEY ARE THE MOST EMPATHIC RACE IN THE UNIVERSE.
THERE MUST BE SOMETHING I CAN DO. I MUST RECOVER MY BOARD!
THESE PEOPLE EVEN EMPATH ZE WITH ME, THEIR CAPTOR-- PERFECT SLAVES!
BEHOLD MY EMPIRE!
YOU SHOULD BE AWARE OF HOW PRECARIOUS YOUR POSITION IS. YOU BRING NO BOOTY, AND SOMEHOW I DON'T THINK ANYONE WOULD PAY TO HAVE YOU BACK.
THE QUESTION BECOMES-- WHY SHOULD I KEEP YOU ALIVE?
YOU HAVE THREE HOURS TO THINK OF A REASON FOR ME TO ALLOW YOU TO GO ON LIVING.

TO ME, MY BOARD.
IT'S NO USE. MY BOARD MUST NO LONGER EXIST ANYWHERE IN THIS UNIVERSE.
I SENSE YOUR NEED. YOU ARE MISSING A PART OF YOURSELF.
I WILL HELP YOU.
YOU HAVE GREAT POWER. PERHAPS YOU CAN USE THE MASTER'S SINGULARITY TO HELP YOU FIND WHAT YOU SEEK.
YOU'RE RIGHT. USING THE BLACK HOLE TO AMPLIFY MY POWER COSMIC, I CAN BRIDGE ALL THE UNIVERSES TO SUMMON MY BOARD.
THE SINGULARITY?! I SENSE THE NEW PRISONER USING IT. HE WILL DIE FOR THIS!

DIE NOW!
I THINK NOT.
WHEN I ABSORB YOUR POWER, IT WILL MAKE A WELCOME ADDITION TO MINE. I SHOULD HAVE BEEN SUSPICIOUS OF YOUR INHERENT ABILITIES WHEN YOU APPEARED WITHOUT A SHIP
NO MATTER, YOU WILL SOON BECOME BACKGROUND RADIATION.
TO ME, BOARD-- FROM ACROSS THE COSMOS.

IT IS HERE.
I MUST FIGHT-- NOT ONLY FOR MY LIFE, BUT FOR THE REMNANTS OF A ONCE PROUD RACE ALL BUT DESTROYED BY MY FORMER MASTER.
I WILL FEED YOU INTO YOUR OWN SINGULARITY--
WHOOM
--AND THERE YOU WILL REMAIN FOR ETERNITY WITH NO CHOICE BUT TO MEDITATE ON YOUR MISSPENT LIFE.
SPLOOOCH

YOU HAVE DEFEATED THE MASTER. YOU ARE A FORCE FOR GOOD IN THE UNIVERSE.
WILL YOU TAKE MY PEOPLE BACK TO THE PLANET SHUNLEE? WILL YOU LIVE WITH US THERE?
RAVA, WHERE WERE YOUR PEOPLE GOING?
THEY WOULD HAVE A HARD TIME READJUSTING TO SHUNLEE. I WILL TAKE YOU TO A NEW PLANET...
...UTILIZING THE MARAUDER'S OWN TECHNOLOGY.
AS FOR MYSELF, I MUST CONTINUE ON MY JOURNEYS, BUT YOUR NEW HOME WILL ALWAYS BE UNDER MY PROTECTION.
IT SEEMS THAT THE PATHS OF GALACTUS AND MYSELF ARE DESTINED TO CROSS AT EVERY TURN.
WHILE NOT LYING TO RAVA, I DID BY NO MEANS TELL ALL. THEY COULD NOT HAVE FOUNDED A NEW CIVILIZATION ATOP A MASS OF GRIEF.
BUT THEY WILL FIND OUT SOME DAY WHAT HAPPENED TO THEIR WORLD AS WELL AS WHO I WAS...
THE END.

MARVEL READERS PRESENTS

% MARVEL COMICS GROUP-387 Park Avenue South-
New York, New York-10016

Attention correspondents: All letters to be considered for publication must include your name and address though we will withhold that info by request!

Dear Terry,

I normally don't pick up MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS; however, when I saw the Daughters of the Dragon on the front left-hand side of the cover to MCP #42, I knew I had to buy the book. Finally, after nearly four years, we see Colleen Wing and Misty Knight back in action again. Jo Duffy's script and Chris Tsuda's artwork were excellent! I wish, though, that MCP would only concentrate on characters who don't already have their own series. I like Wolverine just like 99.9% of the fans out there, but I don't feel he should be in MCP. He already appears in his old series as well as THE X-MEN. Instead of focusing on mutants as the lead feature, why not focus on characters we haven't seen in some time? I personally would like to see the Ghost Rider and Power Man/Iron Fist make an appearance in this series. (Iron Fist especially. He's not really dead is he?) Also, include more mutli-part stories, not these cheap one-shot stories. This book has unlimited potential...it has yet to be tapped. Oh yeah, I have one more question before I go: Did Shang-Chi eventually die from the poisoning?

Krishna Sadasivam
1631 Bexhill Dr.
Knoxville, TN 37922

Boy, Krishna, you're certainly quite opinionated for someone who rarely buys MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS. Here you are, sparking up all these controversies and we don't even know if you're gonna pick up our magazine again. We hope you do, because you're sure to like what you see. As for the answers to your questions--of course Iron Fist is really dead. Marvel has *never* been known to bring heroes who have apparently been killed back to life, has it?!

As for Shang-Chi, look for a MASTER OF KUNG-FU 80-page Bookshelf Format Special Edition next year that tells the story of Shang's search for his father's long-lost *elixir vitae*. The results of that quest will answer your question--but we're not sure you're going to be happy about it!

Dear Terry,

This is just a short note to tell you that, for the most part, I've enjoyed the stories in MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS. Seeing some of the lesser shown characters done by "newcomer" creators as well as the "old pros" returning to the fold is generally interesting. (Personally, I hope that more newcomers get a shot at scripting stories--hint, hint.)

To change the subject, I'd like to make a comment about issue #42. I think that, in the Union Jack story, his accent was just a tad too thick. It was often difficult to understand what he was saying, which detracted from the otherwise nicely done story.

On another level, will we ever get a chance to see any more early (pre-Excalibur) Captain Britain stories? Perhaps you can run them in MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS! Just a thought. Talk to you soon.

Robert J. Sodaro
P.O. Box 1081
Fairfield, CT 06432

Well, at least that Captain Britain thing was only a thought, and not a suggestion or a request. Thanks for not putting any pressure on us, Robert. As for your other comments, you're obviously hinting that you want to see another Scott Lobdell story. Well, look no further than issue #55, where Scott tackles the mystery of the Collective Man.

Dear Marvel,

I just finished reading MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS #42, and I have to compliment you on the stories of Union Jack and the Daughters of the Dragon. Both stories were so splendidly written and had such beautiful artwork that I'd love to see more of each, especially Union Jack. I think you're doing a nice job with MCP. I also love your covers. Again, keep up the good work.

Benjamin E. Via

Stop it, Benjamin, you're making us blush . Jeez, what can we say except "thanks" (and your check's in the mail).

MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS #42,

Outstanding cover, but what else can you expect from Bob Layton?!

The Wolverine story wasn't too bad, but then again it wasn't too good either. I'll leave it at that.

Wonder Man wasn't very good. I think the Wasp should be the least of the Enchantress' concerns. If she really wants to take care of the Avengers, she should be focusing on the stronger Avengers, like Captain America and Thor.

Union Jack was interesting and the art was great. I like the direction that was taken with the character, in that he suppports his country but not the current political leaders. One thing I didn't like was the flagrant use of the accent. I realize he's going to talk that way because he is from Great Britain, but it didn't have to be shoved down our throats. You don't see it done that way in EXCALIBUR. It is probably better left to the imagination of the reader what everyone would sound like.

The Daughters of the Dragon wasn't very interesting, but the art was great. I wouldn't mind that art team working on future stories, multi-issue stories to be precise, for this title.

Shane Hutchison
P.O. Box 58043
Nassau Bay, TX 77258

And just what was that last comment supposed to mean, Shane? You have something against one-part stories, too?

Attention readers, we here at MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS always try to present the characters which our readers want to see most, but we suddenly realized that we've never really found out who all of our readers want to read about. Sure, there are some letter writers out there who tell us who they want to see every issue, but they don't necessarily represent the opinions of the majority of our readership. So, right now, we are asking *all* of our readers to tell us exactly who they want to see most in this book. To make our lives easier; please send us a POSTCARD with *no more than your TOP TWO* character suggestions in each of these categories:

1. The character you would most like to see in a *multi-part* story

2. The character you would most like to see in a *one-part* story.

We will only count entries that are written on POSTCARDS (past experience has shown that it takes forever to open, sort, and decipher entries written in letter form.) It would make us extremely happy to see all of our readership participate in this poll. The results will be printed on this page in issue ...oh, let's say, issue #64. That gives you some time to think about it. And while you're at it, maybe you can write us a letter about the stories this issue. We'd love to hear what you think, too. Anyway, we look forward to hearing from each and every one of you out there! For now, see you in two weeks!